

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Takuya ISHIDA

Serial No: 10/659,933

Filed: September 11, 2006

For: Throw-Away Tip

Date of NOA: May 10, 2006

Art Unit: 3722

Conf. No.: 5059

Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In the Notice of Allowance dated May 10, 2006, the Office has identified one reason why the presently claimed invention may patentably distinguish over the prior art. With respect to that reason, Applicant respectfully notes that "a linkage portion (13)" and "the linkage portion (13)" at page 3, lines 20-21 of the Notice of Allowability should apparently be "an end portion (13)" and "the end portion (13)", respectively. As such, "a linkage portion (9) which connects the land surface (5') and the portion (8')" in the present application is not disclosed in Wiman et al., and Wiman et al. discloses "an end portion (13) which does not actually touch/connect the edge of the land surface (6)".

Applicant further submits that there are or may be additional reasons why the presently claimed invention may patentably distinguish over the prior art. As such, the Office's stated reasons should not be construed to be the sole basis for patentability of the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,

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